

MISSION

The Edmonds Arts Commission (EAC) exists to ensure that the arts are integral to our community’s quality of life, economic vitality, and central identity.



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41 YEARS OF DEDICATION TO THE ARTS



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ARTS COMMISSION
2016 ANNUAL REVIEW

PROGRAMS

LITERARY ARTS

Presented the 31st annual **Write on the Sound Writers’ Conference (WOTS)**. The sold out conference was attended by 275 registered participants from across the county [1] and generated over 90 hotel night stays in Edmonds. The nationally known event featured a full day of pre-conference writing workshops; keynote speaker John Moe; Writing Contest awards sponsored by Patricia Thorpe & Heather Krause/RBC Wealth Management; reception sponsored by Windermere Real Estate-Edmonds; on site bookshop by Edmonds Bookshop; hospitality sponsored by Walnut Street Coffee, and dine-rounds hosted by EPIC Group Writers. (www.writeonthesound.com)

Facilitated the **Best Book I Ever Read Poster Contest** for third graders in Edmonds schools, with an exhibit of 40 winning entries [2] and a talk by author Trudy Truitt at the reception. Presented in partnership with Friends of the Edmonds Library and Edmonds School District.

PERFORMING ARTS

Presented seven free **Summer Concerts in City Park**, featuring diverse performances sponsored by Lynnwood Honda and Acura of Lynnwood. Presented twelve **Hazel Miller Plaza Concerts** [3] sponsored by the Hazel Miller Foundation. Approximately 4,000 people of all ages attended the Summer Concerts in the Parks.

Assisted in sponsoring performers for the free **Kidstock!** event presented by Edmonds Center for the Arts and **Axis Dance** [4] community workshop.

Partnered with Sno-Isle Edmonds Library and Friends of the Edmonds Library to present the **Seattle Opera Previews** series and to create a new program called **Music at the Library** [5] which offers six free monthly music related presentations and performances during the fall through spring season, October through April.

VISUAL ARTS

Four **Exhibit Spaces** featured work by 27 regional artists for six week shows. Exhibits in the Library, the Edmonds Arts Commission Display Case, the Youth Display Case [6], and joint shows in the Edmonds Arts Festival Foundation Gallery included group shows, selections from the City’s Hekinian Collection [7], the Edmonds Arts Festival Museum Collection, and group shows by local high school students. Joint exhibits with EAFF included work by Yael Sahavy-Mittelman, paintings by Tina Randolph in conjunction with the Write on the Sound conference, and an exhibit of works by Sculptors Workshop. Library shows included artists Judith Perry, Susanne Warner, Sue Robertson and bird photographs in partnership with Puget Sound Bird Fest [8].

ARTS ASSISTANCE

Provided assistance and information services to artists, arts organizations and the community. In recognition of increasing Lodging Tax revenues over the past few years EAC increased the total amount awarded to local arts organizations by almost 50%. EAC recommends awards for **Tourism Promotion** from the 25% of revenues which by City Council Resolution is used to attract visitors for arts and culture. Recommendations are made to the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee for approval in the budget. Funds for promotion to support cultural tourism were awarded to Olympic Ballet Theatre, Cascade Symphony, Driftwood Players, Edmonds Art Studio Tour/EAFF, Frank DeMiero Jazz Fest, Phoenix Theatre, Jazz Connection, Art Walk Edmonds, Cascadia Art Museum, and

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS

Partnered to **support and promote the arts, arts education, and cultural tourism** in a variety of ways with Edmonds cultural organizations including: Edmonds Arts Festival Foundation (exhibits and public art), Edmonds Center for the Arts (arts education and free Kidstock! event), Sno-Isle Library (Opera series, exhibits, pre-WOTS poetry reading), and Friends of the Library (Best Book I Ever Read Poster Contest, Music at the Library), Edmonds Historical Museum (informational panels), Hazel Miller Foundation (Hazel Miller Plaza Concert Series); Bird Fest (exhibits); and local businesses.

Organized the **Arts & Humanities month** proclamation presented at City Council. Continued to encourage use of the online calendar for Arts, Culture and Events in Edmonds at **www.VisitEdmonds.com**. Prepared and sent quarterly **Arts Bulletin** e-newsletter to over 1000 people and WOTS e-news to over 2200.

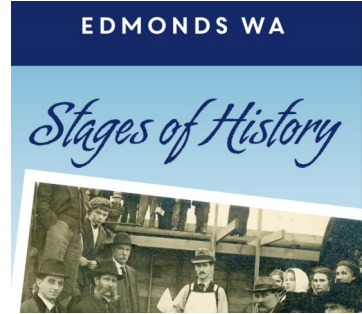
Worked with Western Washington University students on project to design promotion for the 4th Avenue Arts Corridor as part of the Sustainable Cities Partnership.



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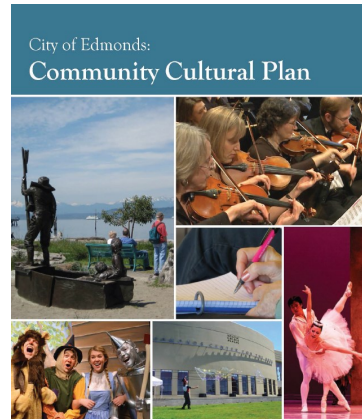
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PUBLIC ART

The Interim Art Project **Luminous Forest** was installed on 4th Avenue N. by artist Iole Alessandrini [9] and the artwork dedication was part of the Edmonds Center for the Arts 10th Anniversary celebration. The installation is composed of 177 solar LED embedded roadway lights [10] between Main Street and Daley on 4th Avenue N.

Promoted the **Art Enhanced Flower Basket Poles** commemoration program with eleven of the twenty-two installed poles assigned commemorations. Reprinted the popular **Stages of History walking tour brochure** [11].

Managed temporary artwork program for “**On the Fence**”, including installations by Naoko Morisawa [12a], Michael Eggers [12b], students from Edmonds-Woodway High School, and Elise Koncsek. Expanded the program to include three sites.

PLANNING

The Arts Commission works to support the **Community Cultural Plan** [13], a component of the City Comprehensive Plan. The 6 year update approved in 2014 includes the following goals:

- Reflect Edmonds’ commitment to arts and culture through **integration** of the arts in the city’s physical infrastructure, planning, image and brand
- **Include** and respond to multiple forms of artistic and cultural expression
- Foster community **partnerships** to increase accessibility to arts/cultural experiences
- Maximize and diversify **use of spaces** for arts & cultural activities
- Strengthen **communication** among arts organizations and increase cultural awareness in the community.

The Arts Commission continued to convene and facilitate **implementation work group meetings** with a focus on outdoor art in 2016. An update on implementation progress was presented at City Council in May 2016. Toward the end of the year the EAC initiated a process in partnership with the Economic Development Department to conduct a **2017 study of the Economic Impact of Arts & Culture in Edmonds**, implementing one of the recommended strategies in the 2014 Community Cultural Plan.

2016 Edmonds Arts Commission Projects and Programs

REVENUE

42 % - Earned Income
11 % - Contributed/Donations
12 % - General Fund
25 % - Lodging Tax Funds
10 % - Public Art*

EXPENSES

42 % - Events, Programs, Arts Education
4 % - Supplies & Equipment
36 % - Marketing Arts & Culture and Tourism Promotion Awards
18 % - Public Art

*Revenue for Public Art varies from year to year depending on eligible City construction projects and private donations. Grant funded projects are not eligible for One Percent for Public Art. Staffing for the Arts Office is through the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department.

2016 COMMISSIONERS

Beverly Shaw-Starkovich (Chair), Samantha Saether (Vice– Chair), Kevin Conefrey, Suzy Maloney, Marni Muir, Lesly Kaplan (WOTS Steering Committee Chair), and Lois Rathvon.

2016 STAFF

Frances White Chapin, Arts and Culture Manager, frances.chapin@edmondswa.gov
Laurie Rose, Administrative Assistant/WOTS, laurie.rose@edmondswa.gov

The City of Edmonds Arts Commission meets (EAC) to advise and recommend on arts issues and arts programs to the Mayor and City Council. EAC meets the first Monday of the month at 6 PM in the Frances Anderson Center, Room 123. The public is welcome. For information, call 425-771-0228.

Edmonds Arts Commission—www.edmondsartscommission.org
City of Edmonds Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department
Frances Anderson Center, 700 Main Street, Edmonds WA 98020

Photos: Staff

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